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AN AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR PUBLICATION

# EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

Owned, Controlled and Published by CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY and BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

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## CALIFORNIA SHOWS DROP IN FACTORY EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN SAYS DEPT.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The sharp drop in the number of women employed as production and related workers in California's manufacturing industries has received considerable attention. Despite this reduction, women now constitute a much larger proportion of the total factory forces than before the war, according to the Department of Industrial Relations for the State of California.

**From an all-time high of 284,000 in August, 1943, which coincided with the seasonal peak in the canning industry, the number of female wage earners in California factories dropped to 93,300 in April 1946.**

That there are a larger number of women represented in the total factory forces is clearly evidenced in the durable goods industries in which very few women were employed prior to Pearl Harbor. In January 1941, only three out of every 100 factory workers were women. While the proportion increased steadily during the war and decreased sharply after V-J day, in April 1946, women constituted approximately 12 per cent of all durable goods manufacturing wage earners in California—four times the prewar ratio.

Below is listed a comparison of the proportion of women production workers in April 1946, and April 1941, in major durable goods groups:

| | Per Cent Women April 1941 | April 1946 |
|---|---|---|
| Lumber and timber | 2.7 | 8.6 |
| Furniture, wood products | 10.1 | 18.2 |
| Stone, clay, glass products | 11.0 | 14.5 |
| Iron, steel products | 3.8 | 9.9 |
| Aircraft | 1.2 | 17.1 |
| Shipbuilding (private yd.) | 0 | 1.9 |
| Nonferrous metal products | 3.3 | 11.6 |
| Electrical equipment | 14.1 | 30.8 |
| Machinery | 1.9 | 9.7 |
| Automobile equipment | 0.5 | 3.8 |

**In the nondurable goods industries, women have always represented a significant proportion of the factory forces. While the number and proportion in these industries rose during the war, it was not as spectacular as in the durable goods division, and the postwar decrease has not been as sharp.**

In April 1941, women constituted 32.1 per cent of all California production workers engaged in manufacturing nondurable goods products. The wartime April peak showed 40.3 per cent in 1944 and the ratio dropped to 34.5 per cent in April 1946.

Listed below is the proportion of women of the various nondurable goods groups in April 1946, compared with April 1941.

| | Per Cent Women April 1941 | April 1946 |
|---|---|---|
| Food; kindred products | 28.6 | 29.8 |
| Tobacco manufactures | 71.2 | 77.6 |
| Textile mill products | 43.1 | 57.1 |
| Apparel | 79.6 | 80.7 |
| Paper and allied products | 23.3 | 31.3 |
| Printing and publishing | 12.3 | 17.9 |
| Chemicals; allied products | 10.8 | 13.2 |
| Petroleum products | 0.2 | 4.2 |
| Rubber products | 7.6 | 20.1 |
| Leather, leather products | 28.7 | 47.2 |

## AFL Bakers Ask 6 Days Pay For 5 Days Work

WASHINGTON.—Bakers in the nation's capital are asking for "what amounts to six days pay for five days work" in a new contract.

Business Agent Charles McClosky of the Bakery & Confectionery Workers (AFL), said a day strike notice has been filed and conciliators asked to initiate negotiations for the 1,000 members in about 40 bakeries.

## To Labor Board



Former Comdr. James J. Reynolds, New Jersey attorney, has been appointed to the NLRB, replacing Gerard Reilly, who recently resigned. He is a brother of Quentin Reynolds, foreign correspondent. (Federated Pix)

## Teamsters' Union Dispenses With Regular Meeting During Vacation

**The Brotherhood of Teamsters and Auto Truck Drivers, Local No. 70, will discontinue the holding of regular meetings during the summer vacation period.**

**The next regular meeting will be held at 826 West Street, Oakland, Calif., at 8 p. m. Thursday, Sept. 26, 1946, and every second and fourth Thursdays of the month thereafter. All members are urged to attend.**

**The Executive Board will continue to hold its regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month.**

CHAS. W. REAL, Secretary.

## PAINTERS' No. 127 HOLD ELECTION

The Painters' Decorators' and Paperhangers' Local No. 127 elected officers and delegates at their last meeting held on June 27. Most of the officers were re-elected to their same positions. Harry Shepherd, who has held the office of President for the last two years, declined the nomination for that office and Vice President Verne Gable was elected after a contest for that office with Francis Dunn. An additional Business Representative was authorized by the membership and in a spirited contest for that office, William (Tiny) Breakfield was the successful candidate over H. E. Mountain.

The only other contests that developed was in the election of delegates to the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, in which Edgar Rhue, J. S. Miller, H. E. Albers, Hugh Rutledge, William Breakfield, Vern Gable and Larry Kessell were the successful candidates. In the election of delegates to the General Assembly which will be held in San Francisco beginning September 1 of this year, H. S. Rutledge, H. E. Mountain and Walter Cavanaugh were elected as delegates.

## THREE ANTI-LABOR PETITIONS FAIL TO QUALIFY FOR BALLOT

SAN FRANCISCO.—None of the three anti-labor initiative petitions have qualified for the November election; the Cecil DeMille petition, called "California Political Freedom Law"; the "Veterans' Employment" petition; or the latest petition, titled in April, 1946, "Regulating Mode of Collective Bargaining and Solicitation of Labor Union Membership."

Under the law, June 27 was the last date any petition could qualify for the November general election, as the State Constitution provides that petitions must be fully qualified 130 days prior to the regular general election.

When the Attorney General titles an initiative petition, the sponsors have 90 days in which to get signatures and file their first petitions with the County Clerk. The County Clerk then has 20 days in which to check them, following which the sponsors have an additional 40 days in which to file supplemental petitions, and the County Clerk 10 more days for checking these.

June 27 was the deadline for the November election. The backers of the initiative petition titled "Regulating Mode of Collective Bargaining and Solicitation of Labor Union Membership," however, have circulators soliciting signatures in Los Angeles, in spite of the deadline. It was their desire, as conveyed to the County Clerk of San Francisco, not to file any of their petitions prior to July 1. This can only mean that the backers of this petition are planning to qualify it for a special election in 1948. It has also been rumored that they may resort to court action to try to qualify the measure on technical grounds.

**The California State Federation of Labor is following all developments with the greatest attention and will keep the affiliated organizations informed.**

## RENT INCREASES OR EVICTIONS AGAINST CALIFORNIA LAW!

Immediate rent increases or evictions are against the law. Although OPA rent controls no longer apply, tenants are still protected by California law. Landlords must give tenants legal notice before raising rent. If you pay your rent by the month, you are entitled to a month's notice before your rent can be increased; a week's notice, if you pay by the week. If you have a lease, your rent cannot be raised until the lease expires, providing the lease does not contain a waiver.

Tenants are also protected against immediate eviction under California law. The period of notice for eviction ranges from three days upward, depending on the grounds. A landlord must still obtain a court order if a tenant resists eviction.

Landlords and tenants should become familiar with the State rent laws, in order to avoid violations.

## FEWER WOMEN IN INDUSTRIAL FATALITIES

SAN FRANCISCO.—In the June report of the Department of Industrial Relations to the Governor's Council, an interesting item pertaining to industrial fatalities is listed.

**The report states that there were 268 deaths due to industrial accidents in California during the first six months of 1945. Of this total number of workers killed, only four were women. Although women comprise between 25 to 30 per cent of the labor forces, they represented less than 2 per cent of all fatalities, thus testifying to the fact that women are employed in the less hazardous industries and that they are probably more careful than men. Two of the women killed were employed in the aircraft manufacturing industry, one in air transportation, and the other in the machinery manufacturing industry.**

During the first half of 1945 the largest number of industrial fatalities occurred in construction and in the trucking and warehousing industry, with 29 deaths each, closely followed by shipbuilding with 28 fatal accidents. Twenty-three deaths were reported in the lumber industry and agriculture accounted for sixteen.

That fatalities affect certain age groups more than others was evidenced in the fact that the largest number of deaths (42) occurred in the age group 35 to 39 years. In the same period, four minors of 18 years were killed, and 17 men who were 65 years of age, including six workers who were 75 years old and over. The report states that when "classified by cause, the major group was 'vehicles,' which in most cases means an automobile accident. A total of 98, or more than one-third, of the 268 fatalities was in this category. Next to vehicles, the largest number of deaths (43) was caused by 'falls,' and the next largest (33) by 'machinery.'"

## URGES BUYER STRIKE TO PROTEST OPA DEATH

NEW YORK.—The people of New York were urged June 25 to support a buyers' strike if Congress fails to pass a satisfactory OPA bill—not to buy any clothing, refrigerators, radios, furniture, household ware and to buy only as many necessities as they need to feed their families.

**The call came from Chairman Mildred A. Gutwillig of the New York City Consumers Council, who declared that "a buyers' strike led by organized consumers and labor can be the strongest weapon against unbridled inflation and should be used in the interest of our national economy."**

"Congress, acting for big business," she said, "is preparing for a boom and bust period. Against this eventuality consumers will use the buyers' strike as a weapon. They will persistently and stubbornly refuse to pay inflated prices. They will organize this strike action block by block until the small merchant who is being victimized as well joins consumers to bring prices in line with workers' incomes. A buyers' strike led by organized consumers and labor will grow until it will bring inflation under control."

## Mergers Show Push Toward Monopoly

WASHINGTON.—Mergers in which manufacturing and mining concerns acquired or merged with other firms show the trend toward high concentration in many fields.

Figures compiled by the Smaller War Plants Corporation in its report "Economic Concentration and World War II," show that a total of 193 mergers took place in the food and kindred products field during the period 1940-1945.

Tobacco manufacturing, very highly concentrated, showed only three mergers in the war period, but textile mill products and other fiber manufacturers figured in a total of 56 mergers.

There were only eight mergers in rubber and rubber products for the period, but there were 107 in iron and steel, and 43 in electrical machinery manufacturing.

Three flour mills produce 29 per cent of the total milled in the country.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY, 1946




"THEY SHALL BEAT THEIR SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES AND THEIR SPEARS INTO PRUNING HOOKS." TODAY WE CALL IT RECONVERSION. ON JULY 4TH, 1776, WE DECLARED OUR POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE. TODAY, LET'S STRIVE FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM. IN ORDER TO OBTAIN IT, IT IS NECESSARY TO SPEND OUR UNION-EARNED WAGES WITH FIRMS THAT DISPLAY THE UNION LABEL, SHOP CARD, OR SERVICE BUTTON.

I. M. ORNBURN, Sec'y-Treas., Union Label Trades Dept., American Federation of Labor

# Green Calls Upon President To Veto Anti-Labor Hobbs Bill

## Other Labor Leaders Also Rap Measure In Wires To Truman

WASHINGTON.—AFL President William Green, in a telegraphic message to President Truman, made an urgent appeal for immediate veto of the anti-labor Hobbs bill.

Similar appeals poured into the White House from Daniel J. Tobin, President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL), and other AFL leaders throughout the Nation.

**The Hobbs bill, twice passed by the House, was given approval by the Senate on a voice vote and without debate or objection. It was called up for action by Senator Hatch (D., New Mexico).**

The measure would make it a felony for any unionist to obstruct, delay or interfere with the movement of goods in interstate commerce. Penalties range up to 20 years in prison and fines up to $10,000.

Mr. Green, in his message to the President, called for veto of the bill on three grounds:

**1—There is grave danger that it would, if it became law, "interfere with the exercise of the legitimate activities" of those engaged in the transportation industry and in the production of goods which enters interstate commerce.**

**2—That it is susceptible to broad and dangerous interpretations by the courts. "The penalties provided in the bill might be imposed upon members as well as officers of unions engaged in a strike . . . when, through the influence and instigation of labor-hating employers, violence in some form might occur."**

**3—Widespread unrest and discontent will prevail in the ranks of labor if the measure becomes law.**

Belief that the President will veto the Hobbs bill stemmed from his discussion of its provisions when it was attached, in identical form, to the vicious Case bill. In vetoing that measure, Mr. Truman said:

"This section would re-enact, in amended form, the so-called Anti-Racketeering Act. On its face, this section does no more than prohibit all persons, whether union representatives of employers or others, from interfering with interstate commerce by robbery and extortion.

"I am in full accord with the objectives which the Congress here had in mind.

**"However, it has already been suggested that some question may arise from the fact that Section 7 omits from the original act the provision that it was not to be construed so as to 'impair, diminish or in any manner affect the rights of bona fide labor organizations in lawfully carrying out the legitimate objects thereof.'**

"It should be made clear in express terms that Section 7 does not make it a felony to strike and picket peacefully, and to take other legitimate and peaceful concerted action."

**Tobin was in Chicago when informed the Hobbs bill had been approved by the Senate and sent to the White House. He was sharply critical of this action which, he pointed out, was accomplished "without hearings and even without a roll call vote."**

"Professedly, the Hobbs bill is intended to prevent robbery and extortion by unions," he added. "It defines as extortion, legitimate and peaceful union practices. The definition of extortion is so broad and dangerous that any argument used by a union representative to persuade a nonmember to join might be interpreted as illegal by a hostile judge."

## LOCAL No. 216 MEMBER PASSES AWAY

**Anthony C. Hendrix, who had been a member of Local 216 since 1938, passed away June 28, 1946, after an illness of approximately three months. He had spent most of his time in recent years working at the trade in the Walnut Creek area.**

## Quits In Disgust



Chester A. Bowles, former Economic Stabilizer, who handed his resignation to President Truman before Senate killed Price Control Bill. Bowles was champion of price control and had virtually fought a single-handed battle since V-J day to keep price controls. Before resigning Bowles told reporters that booby trap-riddled OPA legislation has presented the country with the "greatest of all crises" which will "inevitably blow up in our faces two or three months from now."

(Federated Pix)

## Attention! Notice For Refrigeration Men of Local 342

Refrigeration members of Local Union No. 342 will hold their regular meeting Tuesday, July 9, 1946, at the Labor Temple. All members are urged to attend.

FRANK J. RIZZO, Business Representative.

## CLC, BTC ADJOURN MEETINGS OUT OF RESPECT TO GREAT LEADER, FDR

**That the memory of the late great president Franklin Delano Roosevelt still lives in the minds and hearts of the labor movement of Alameda County, was very much in evidence this week as both the Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council adjourned their weekly meetings last Monday and Tuesday nights out of respect to his memory. Wartime leader, apostle of world cooperation with other nations, great friend of the working man and champion of the "little people," the memory of FDR will always live in the hearts of organized labor for the humanitarian legislation that was enacted during his tenure as president of our country.**

**A great man, a greater president, organized labor has missed him.**

## SHEET METAL WORKERS No. 216 ELECT OFFICERS

The Sheet Metal Workers Union, No. 216, at their last meeting elected the following named members as officers of that Union for the ensuing term:

President Joseph F. Pruss, Vice-President Alfred Galeria, Recording Secretary; Ted Witharm, Treasurer; George Germain, Conductor; R. E. Quinn, Jr., Warden; Arthur Teves, Business Representative and Financial Secretary; George W. Grosser, Assistant Business Representative; Lloyd Childs, Delegate to Contra Costa Building Trades Council; A. H. Jacobs, Delegate to Alameda County Building Trades Council; Joseph Vierra and R. E. Quinn, Sr. Delegates to Central Labor Council; Arthur Teves, and William A. Thomas, Trustees; C. E. Armitage, Mel T. Basso and Sydney Amess.

Executive Board members R. E. Quinn, Sr., Kenneth R. Terrell; George Germain and Alfred Galeria a tie vote for the fifth member on the Executive Board will be decided between Donald Kennedy and William Carmichael as to who will serve. In accordance with the custom of the past, Business Representative George W. Grosser and President Joseph F. Pruss will be delegates to the State Council of Sheet Metal Workers of California.

## Special Notice For Steamfitters', 342

Steamfitters' Local Union No. 342 will hold its annual picnic at Linda Vista Park, Mission San Jose, Sunday, July 28, 1946.

JOHN ERVIN, Financial Secretary-Business Representative.

## VICE PRESIDENTS ELECTED BY STATE FEDERATION

The following tabulation shows the votes cast in the four districts in the State Federation where contests existed for Vice-Presidents. All incumbents not listed were returned to office by unanimous action. The results of the balloting are as follows:

**DISTRICT NO. 10 (Alameda County)**

| | |
|---|---|
| R. S. Ash | 181,448* |
| J. P. Peregoy | 158,934 |
| E. MacGregor | 59,695 |
| C. A. Roe | 227,220* |

**DISTRICT NO. 6 (Bakersfield to Merced)**

| | |
|---|---|
| F. M. Engle | 148,790 |
| Paul Reeves | 169,604* |

**DISTRICT NO. 9 (San Francisco)**

| | |
|---|---|
| A. F. Dougherty | 238,867* |
| G. Kelly | 240,511* |
| Capt. C. F. May | 136,237 |
| C. J. Foehn | 97,093 |
| H. Lundeberg | 275,453* |
| V. S. Swanson | 265,857* |

**DISTRICT NO. 12 (Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano Counties)**

| | |
|---|---|
| F. C. Cheseboro | 154,196 |
| L. Nelson | 162,354* |

*Elected.

## PAINTERS' UNION No. 40 HOLDS ANNUAL ELECTION

Painters Union No. 40 of Berkeley elected the following named members to serve as officers of that Union for the ensuing term:

President J. Line, Vice-President C. Burgess, Recording Secretary J. Heimans, Financial Secretary R. Dickens, Treasurer M. Edwards, Conductor O. Lindberg, Warden R. Chrysler, Trustee O. Lindberg, Delegate to General Assembly C. Vezey and J. Heimans, delegates to Building Trades Council R. Dickson, C. Vezey, R. Chrysler and J. Warner, Delegates to District Council of Painters No. 8 C. Vezey, J. Line and C. Burgess, for Executive Board members J. Ryan, F. Donaldson, C. Burgess and D. Deyoe, and for Business Representative Clarence Vezey, who was re-elected without opposition to that office.

## ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR DRAWING LARGE CROWDS

The Alameda County Fair, opening on July 2 this week, in the city of Pleasanton, has turned that usually quiet community into a scene of gala and carnival activities.

An 11-day racing program is the main attraction to most of the patrons who follow the ponies. Racing Secretary Harry Hatch has been successful in securing the services of a good grade of jockeys which will give the patrons of the sport of kings a run for their money.

Harness racing is also a feature of the racing oval at the fairgrounds.

General Manager Sam Whiting has secured livestock, agricultural and horticultural exhibits that compare favorably with any in the state.

## FRESNO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RULES HOT CARGO ACT UNCONSTITUTIONAL

SAN FRANCISCO.—Judge Klette of Fresno County Superior Court refused the complaint of the Sunnyside Winery of Fresno to issue an injunction against the Distillery, Rectifying and Wine Workers International Union, Local No. 45, under the Hot Cargo Act.

**After lengthy arguments by attorneys for both sides, the Judge ruled in favor of the Union, marking another victory in the long fight against the unconstitutional Hot Cargo statute.**

Conditions leading up to the court dispute developed after the union started to organize the Sunnyside Winery and the latter resisted and refused to deal with the Union. The Union then proceeded to picket the employer in order to inform the public of his unfair attitude, as well as to publicize the fact to the various customers and concerns doing business with the employer. A suit was brought under the Hot Cargo Act to prevent the Union from conducting what is referred to in that act as a secondary boycott. The intent of the employer was to compel the Union to keep the labor dispute a secret from the public which was an outright interference with the basic right of free speech.

**In line with the recent epidemic on the part of certain employers to hamstring the Unions and prevent employees from exercising their right to collective bargaining, recourse to the infamous Hot Cargo statute was taken by the employer.**

The Union attorney cited the various and many unconstitutional authorities, including the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States and of the Supreme Court of California, on the right of boycott and picketing.

The Superior Court Judge of Fresno County sustained the demurrer to the complaint and refused to issue an injunction.

## LABOR'S NEWS IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON.—The NLRB announced it was investigating three petitions for plant-wide representation of 20,000 workers at the Oak Ridge, Tenn., atomic energy plants, filed with NLRB Special Agent Daniel Leary by the AFL Atomic Trades & Labor Council. The NLRB is also investigating AFL unfair labor practice charges at the plants.

★ ★ ★

**WASHINGTON.—The Smaller War Plant Corporation report to the Senate small business committee shows that eight interest groups, including the Morgan-First National Bank (N. Y.) section, control 28.9 per cent of all nonfinancial and banking corporations in America. The Morgan interests control 106 large corporations, the report shows.**

★ ★ ★

ATLANTA, Ga.—The State of Georgia filed suit in superior court to revoke the charter of the Ku Klux Klan and dissolve the national organization of the secret terrorist outfit, which was given until July 1 to show cause why its organization should be allowed under the Georgia constitution.

★ ★ ★

**WASHINGTON.—Actor Orson Welles, Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (D., California), Senator Glen Taylor (D., Idaho), and Richard Leonard were speakers at a rally of 1,000 delegates from east and midwest demanding a buyers' strike as the public's retaliation for the expected fall of OPA and price control at the hands of a stubborn Congress.**

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—OPA announced an increase in the ceiling price of bituminous coal averaging 40.5 cents a ton at the producer level, adding that "wholesalers and retail dealers are unable to absorb any part of the increase." Of recent increased production costs, operators will absorb about one-fifth of the total.

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**MEDICAL PROFESSION SCORED**

CLEVELAND.—The medical profession was scored for its refusal to debate the proposal for a national health program and for blacklisting those doctors who refuse to follow along its official position by President Marvin C. Harrison of the Consumers League in a public hearing on the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill.

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# AUXILIARY NOTES

## How the Women Are Helping Through Their Organizations

### CARPENTERS' AUXILIARY No. 160

Hello Girls:

Friday, July 28, was nomination and election of officers. The following officers were elected to office for the ensuing year: Agnes Elzig, President; Betty Shumaker, Vice-President; Nathalie Sterling, Treasurer; Mae Bristow, Secretary; Flo Bartolini, Conductress; Diane Holder, Associate Conductress; Josephine Wooldridge, Chaplin; Ida Leroy, Pianist; Theresa Michelsen, Press Correspondent; Ruth Thompson, Trustee, and Livah Pedersen, Past President. We had a very nice attendance at the meeting and everyone seemed quite happy. I am sure that these very capable officers will have a grand year if we all give them our full co-operation. May I congratulate them all!

The installation dinner for the members and their lady friends will be held the week following our installation. August 2 will be the dinner and the committee will tell us at the social where it will be held and the price. Let's all try to go to this dinner wherever it is and be ready to make your reservations on social night or at least by installation night. Chairman for this event will be Diane Holder or call Livah Pedersen at Berkeley 8171-W for reservations.

Social night will be July 12. Be sure to attend these socials as we have lots of fun and good refreshments.

There will be no Executive Board meeting in July as so many are on vacation.

Don't forget our open Installation on July 26. Come and bring your friends to this as everyone is welcome. It promises to be as colorful and lovely as last year and it was really beautiful and well worth your effort to come. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

Many of our members will be out of town over the holidays. Betty and Bert Shumake and Mrs. Fuller will be in Placerville with Betty's daughter. Ida and Frank Leroy who spent last week-end at Ukiah will be in Salinas visiting Ida's sister, Mrs. Myrtle Hughes. Flo Bartalini and daughter, Virginia Lee, will leave this week for Kincaid, Ill., for a nice visit with her mother, Mrs. F. Pattarozzi, and relatives in Chicago. Have a good time, Flo.

Betty Shumake's grandson, Dean Prindle, has joined the army for three years. Good luck to you, Dean.

Joy Wright has two sisters visiting her. Mrs. Ruth Matthews of Boise, Idaho, and Mrs. W. N. Walker of De Queen, Ark. We hope your visit is a most pleasant one.

Eleanor Clapp's mother-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Redfern, of Seattle, Wash., is visiting the family here. Hope you have a nice time.

Hello Bea Christensen, hurry and get well.

Mary Wall is ill with laryngitis. Hurry and get well Mary, we miss you.

JOSEPHINE WOOLDRIDGE,
Press Correspondent.

### MACHINISTS' AUXILIARY No. 97

The meeting was called to order by President Mabel Balli. I wish to thank Sister Louise Ghodossi for being musician in my absence. After lodge a spirited game of whist was played and lovely prizes awarded. Sister Tillie Bartmess won the mystery package. Delicious homemade caramel and peach pies were served, the pies being made by our Vice-President Celia Stavros and Past President Olive Harvey. On July 9 the auditing committee will meet at the home of President Mabel Balli for a luncheon and audit of the books.

Sister Ellis has been ill and trust at this writing she is improving rapidly.

Sister Katie Phillips is now at her home in Paradise and trust Katie you are improving every day.

Sister Cora Ichor leaves Tuesday for two weeks in Yosemite.

Sister Violet Klemm leaves July. 8 for her vacation (destination unknown).

Sister "Princess" Graves has moved to her new home in the Oaks, Lake County and she will not be in our midst until October. Sure will miss you "Princess" and the best of luck to you and hubby Bill.

There will be a joint meeting of the Constitution and Ritual Committee July 16 in Golden West Hall, San Francisco, at 10:30 a. m. All committees bring your own sandwich and coffee will be served. San Francisco Lodges, Vallejo and Oakland will attend.

Brother Dick Girard and myself have returned from a delightful trip to Reno and Portola. Plenty warm up there but sure had a grand time.

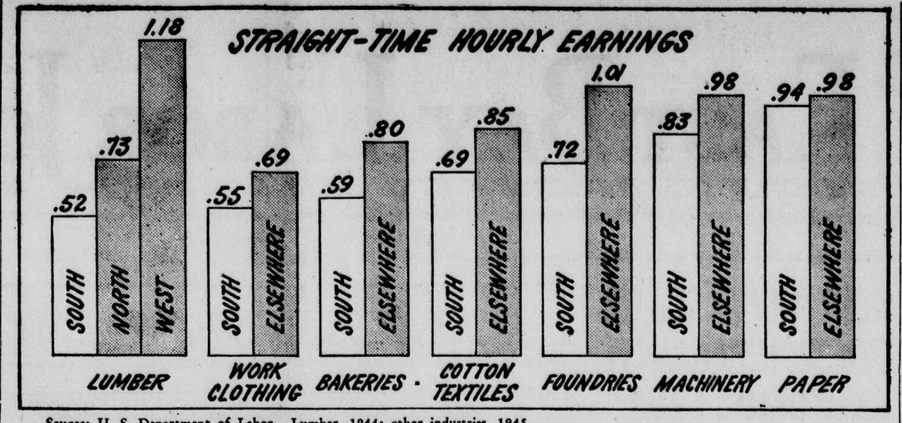
Press Correspondent.
LOIS L. GIRARD,

### ENGINEERING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES OPEN ON CENTRAL VALLEYS JOB

The door of opportunity to an engineering career was opened wide for young men of the Central Valley by the Bureau of Reclamation in an announcement at Sacramento yesterday. H. F. Osborne, Region II Personnel Officer, released a statement that increasing work on the great Central Valley Project makes the need for engineering aides on the Delta-Mendota, Contra Costa and Friant-Kern Canals acute and that the Bureau will start hiring qualified applicants immediately.

The jobs are permanent. They do not require high educational qualifications. And the steady expansion of project operations will allow any intelligent, hard-working young man to forge ahead in the uncrowded profession of irrigation engineer, where practical experience counts most, Mr. Osborne stated.

Pay ranges from $1,954 to $3,397.20 a year, depending on experience, with vacation, sick leave and retirement benefits. There are openings for draftsmn, computers, rodmen, chainmen, and instrument men.



Source: U. S. Department of Labor. Lumber, 1944; other industries, 1945.

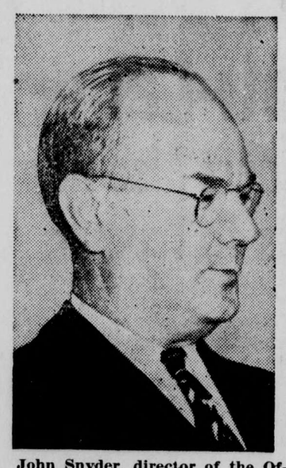
**WAGES WAY DOWN IN DIXIE:** Why is it necessary to unionize the south? This chart from the AFL Monthly Survey graphically gives the answer. In all industry classifications analyzed the south leads—in low wages. (Federated Pix.)

## Plumbers and Gas Fitters' Notes

By S. J. DONOHUE

For the past three weeks I have been making every effort to have the members of the Local Union pay their dues inclusive of June, 1946, in order that we would be able to send four delegates to personally represent the Local Union at the coming U. A. convention. These requests have been made not only through the channel of the Labor Journal, by using up considerable of your time and a good deal of mine, but if you know what I mean, making personal visits and phone calls with the same objective in view, and up to the time that the cash sheets for the last meeting held on Wednesday, and by the way, these cash sheets were held over to give those who are willing to, an opportunity to respond by coming in on Saturday, and by using other strategic means, I now feel safe in giving assurance to the fourth man on the list that his credentials will be accepted.

In order that I might make myself sufficiently clear, this is not a personal question on my part—the Union belongs to the membership, each and every one, and a chain is just as strong as its weakest link—and believe me when I say that in spite of the various requests made by me, there are still a number of members whose dues and assessments, notwithstanding the fact that they are working every day, are paid only for the month of April, and let me emphasize it still further, these members are working in some of the best shops in the city. If all the members, or even a large majority of the members would just help to enforce the section of the working rules which I quote: "Do not work with any journeymen who are not members of the United Association and who do not have a paid up working card," all this worry about the number of delegates that the Union would be entitled to send to this convention would have been unnecessary. From now on, I will refer to the question of dues and assessments, except when occasion requires it, but will devote the space of the Labor Journal to something more interesting and uplifting.


John Snyder, director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, has been nominated Secretary of the Treasury by his Missouri friend, President Truman. Snyder represents the ultra-conservative wing of the present administration.—Federated Pictures.

## QUIET—FREE ENTERPRISE AT WORK!!!!

WASHINGTON.—After showing through documents and charts that the control of monopolies on U. S. economy has grown through the war, the Smaller War Plants Corporation reported that American business was pretty well concentrated before the war began.

The following summary appears on page 55 of SWPC's report to the Senate small business committee:

"The 45 largest transportation corporations owned 92 per cent of all the transportation facilities of the country.

"The 40 largest public utility corporations owned more than 80 per cent of the public utility facilities.

"The country's 20 largest banks held 27 per cent of the total loans and investments of all banks.

"The 17 largest life insurance companies accounted for over 81.5 per cent of all the assets of all life insurance companies.

"The 200 largest nonfinancial corporations owned 52 per cent of the total corporate assets.

"One tenth of 1 per cent of all the corporations earned 50 per cent of the total corporate net income.

"Less than 4 per cent of all the manufacturing corporations earned 84 per cent of all the net profits of all manufacturing corporations.

"No less than 33 per cent of the total value of all manufactured products was produced under conditions where the four largest producers of each individual product accounted for over 75 per cent of the total U. S. output.

"More than 57 per cent of the total value of manufactured products was produced under conditions where the four largest producers of each product turned out over 50 per cent of the total U. S. output."

## NEWS AND VIEWS OF LOCAL 1622

By JOHN M. HANSEN
Reporter

No meeting tonight, Friday, July 5, 1946.

Grand opening meeting and installation of officers July 12, 1946, at the new hall at 8 p. m. at our new Labor Temple. Let's have the best turnout ever. We should also have a social affair that night.

Brother Charles Roe has quite a bit of news saved up for our next meeting. It is of great importance to the whole Local. Your presence is requested; also, tell your brothers who do not know where the meetings are held. You should all have a different feeling when you sit in your own hall and see the progress of Local 1622 and your community.

Brother Charles Roe has written a nice column on Progress in the Hayward Review of Progress this week. Read it.

We had a swell social meeting June 28th; plenty of food and drinks. Some of you boys were able to give a hand to the community with extra duty Saturday. It's sure good to have a swell bunch of carpenters in our Local.

Don't forget your new hall and installation of officers next meeting, July 12, 1946. See you then.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL

## Dressing Room CHATTER

Due to the favorable response received from the June 21 column listing that portion of the contract dealing with the classifications of the various houses, we are devoting a part of our column this issue to the overtime clauses in the contract.

The overtime rate of time and one-half is applicable for all work in excess of eight (8) hours in any one day, for time in excess of forty (40) hours in any one week, for all work performed on the seventh day and for work done during the hours of 1 a. m. and 8 a. m.

Computation is made on a half hourly basis. Other clauses under this general heading provide that Cashiers shall be paid at the overtime rate for work in excess of seven (7) hours in any theatre day. Any employee whose working hours




are interrupted by meal or rest periods of more than two (2) hours shall be paid an additional fifty (50c) cents per day.

Be sure and sign the in and out report forms that are provided for women and minors in the theatres. If your check does not agree with the amount claimed notify the business office.

Be on guard for the practice of some theatres where an employee may work more than eight (8) hours a day, to spread the overtime hours into a day where they have worked less than eight hours, thus eliminating overtime. For instance, a girl may work ten (10) hours in one day, and six (6) hours another, the theatre instead of paying for fourteen (14) hours at straight time and two (2) hours at the overtime rate, may change the in and out report to read eight (8) hours for both days.

Up and down the aisle: Had an opportunity to check some of the Richmond theatres last Sunday and found an old former member, Carl Coleman, holding down the night manager job at the Studio. . . . Trellis McKnight on the door at the State, and Joe Lewis tearing 'em in half at the Fox. . . . Ed Rider was just closing the Rivoli as we stopped in to say hello to Mgr. Joe O'Connor. . . . Scotty Stebenne is back in town after convalescing in Denver. . . . Herb McMann (Central) is slated to spend a few days in the hospital. . . . It was a great shock to hear of the death of Bill Linn and after reading the various eulogies in the daily papers, words fail us. . . . The T. M. A. (men only) is developing into one of the best lodges of its type in the country.

**BIG 5 RACK UP HUGE VOLUME**

Sales figures for 1944 show that the big five in chain groceries, A & P Tea, Safeway, Kroger, American and First National Stores, rang up a volume representing 19 per cent of all U. S. grocery sales, chain and independent.

## Baseball

**Local 127 Wins 4 to 3.**

The Fairfax Merchants travelled out to Bushrod Park and were taken into camp by the Painters. It was a well-played, snappy game highlighted by some fine umpiring both behind the plate and on the bases.

Al Walker played centerfield as Gene Houser was used on the mound. Wally Kirby, on his first day out, played a few innings and looked the money.

Sunday, July 7, the Brushboys travel into Contra Costa County, meeting Concord town team at 2 p. m.

**NATIONAL DAIRY PRODUCTS OWNS 360 FIRMS**

National Dairy Products Company owns 360 dairy firms, including Sheffield Farms and Southern Dairies, Inc. It alone distributes 10 per cent of the nation's fluid milk, but in some cities it runs as high as 50 per cent. In New York City it sells 25 per cent; in Boston 20 per cent; Philadelphia, 32 per cent; Washington D. C., 56 per cent, and Pittsburgh, 42.5 per cent.

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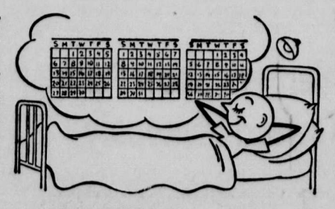
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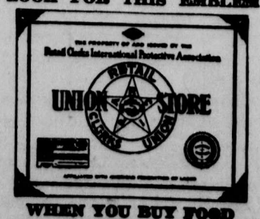
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WHEN YOU BUY FOOD

## JAMES REYNOLDS NAMED TO NATIONAL LABOR BD.

WASHINGTON.—James J. Reynolds, Jr., 39, once a stock broker who entered the field of industrial relations, was named by President Truman to membership on the National Labor Relations Board.

**Mr. Reynolds started as a Wall Street messenger, worked his way up to a partnership in an important brokerage house and quit because he "didn't like to make money that way." He donned overalls as a $22.50-a-week laborer in the U. S. Pipe & Foundry Co., rose rapidly to foreman, director of industrial relations and, eventually, assistant to the president. He entered the Navy in 1943 and eventually was promoted to special assistant to the Undersecretary, in charge of industrial relations, with the rank of commander.**

He will succeed Gerard R. Reilly, who resigned as of the end of his term, effective August 26. Reilly will return to private law practice.

## Ford Gets Docked For Docking Workers

ALBANY, N. Y.—Conviction of the Ford Motor Company on charges of violating the penal law by docking the pay of three employees who took time off to vote in the Nov. 7, 1944, elections was upheld by the appellate division, 4 to 1, June 26. The company was fined $300 under an earlier district court decision which Ford had appealed.

The lone dissenter, Justice Ellsworth C. Lawrence, held that the state law requiring employers to give a worker two hours off for voting was unconstitutional since it deprived them of their property without due process of law.

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U. S. savings bonds are the safest investment in the world. E bonds pay more interest than any other government security. They can be readily converted into cash should the need arise.—Chester C. Davis.

## STEAMFITTERS' NOTES

Local Union 343 will be represented at the coming U. A. Convention to convene at Atlantic City, N. J., Sept. 9, 1946, by Bros. Earl Gibson, Willard Scott, P. J. "Patty" McGuire, Frank Rizzo, John Davy, Don Arbuckle and Les Silveira. Bro. John Ervin was elected but declined the honor.

Many of our members called at the office Saturday for the payment of dues and other business transactions finding it closed. We take this opportunity to inform those who were unable to attend our last meeting that a recommendation by the elected officers and concurred in by the membership will result in the office being closed on Saturdays, hereafter. The Business Representatives wish to thank the membership for this generous overture. Now we can enjoy our Saturdays the same as others.

It is with sincere regrets that we inform you of the death of Bro. Sam Bass. All who knew him praised him. He was a fine mechanic and an honor to the Local Union.

Please be advised that the next meeting of the Executive Board and Apprentice Committee will be July 10, 1946.

The Business Representatives.

## BIGGEST CORPORATIONS LISTED BY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON.—The team of Big Business has its All-American squad neatly listed by size based on gross capital assets.

In a report to the Senate small business committee, the Smaller War Plants Corporation listed the 250 biggest manufacturing corporations including their publicly financed facilities operated in September, 1944.

**Leading off was U. S. Steel in the No. 1 spot, followed by Standard Oil (N. J.); General Motors; DuPont; Bethlehem Steel; Socony Vacuum Oil; Aluminum Company of America; Standard Oil (Ind.); Gulf Oil; Ford Motor and Standard Oil (Calif.), to complete the varsity eleven.**

Able and strong firms follow in its wake: The Texas Co. at No. 12, Shell Union Oil; Republic Steel and Anaconda Copper come next, trailed by Union Carbide, Sinclair Oil, General Electric and Curtiss-Wright. Phillips Petroleum is ranked 20th with Hercules Powder and Chrysler right behind.

**Swift & Co. led the packers in 48th place, two ahead of Armour. American Viscose was top dog in textiles, ranking 58th out of the 250 leaders. Todd Shipyards at No. 65 was impressive, but Henry J. Kaiser Co. was 49th.**

General Foods, which is about as good a monopolist as exists in that field, was ranked 113th, and millionare-making Coca-Cola rated only 132nd place. Cleveland's Jack & Heintz, Inc., was placed 244th, while the brewer's entry, Anheuser-Busch of St. Louis, took over No. 134.

Jeeps helped put Willys-Overland at 200, but it was behind Packard (63), Continental Motors (78) and Caterpillar Tractor (104).

## Trainmen Will Join AFL Or CIO Soon Says Pres. Whitney

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—The 270,000-strong Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen will affiliate with either the AFL or CIO this fall, President A. F. Whitney predicted here June 27, without expressing his own preference between the two organizations.

**"The day is past when labor can operate successfully on an independent basis," he said. "This is the age of mass production and the best results can be obtained by a unified front."**

Whitney is in Miami Beach to plan the union's convention, which opens here September 16 and will be attended by more than 1,000 delegates. The question of affiliation with a national organization has been under discussion for 20 years and the time is ripe now for action, he said, adding that the issue would be high up on the convention agenda.

## UNEMPLOYMENT CALLED VETS' MAJOR PROBLEM

NEWARK, N. J.—The main problem of veterans today is unemployment, Shane MacCarthy, assistant administrator for retraining and reemployment in the U. S. Labor Department, told the annual national convention of the Catholic War Veterans.

"Veterans are either finding unsuitable jobs or none at all," he declared. "At least 1,750,000 veterans are drawing readjustment allowances because they can't find suitable jobs."

Neil Dalton, deputy administrator of the Veterans' Housing Program, told the convention that even though 1,200,000 houses will be built this year and 1,500,000 next year, at least 1,200,000 families will still be living in doubled-up quarters.

## RAILWAY EXPRESS STOPPAGE TIES UP NEW YORK SERVICE

NEW YORK.—Railway Express Agency service slowed to a halt in New York as 10,000 freight handlers and leaders June 28 went into their second day of a work stoppage despite back-to-work appeals by national officials of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks (AFL).

**Called by local union leaders, the stoppage was indorsed by 3,000 union members at a meeting June 27 which was to be resumed the following day. Strategy of a continuous membership meeting was worked out to skirt provisions of the railway labor act which require 30 days notice before a strike.**

The unanimous vote to stay out "until the company meets our demands" came after Adolph J. Mazanec, general chairman of the union's district board of adjustment, accused the agency of abolishing 410 jobs and changing shifts to avoid payment of overtime, apparently to counteract an 18½ cents hourly wage increase won a month before.

**Another speaker, District Vice-Chairman Arthur A. Grace, charged that company officials "are trying to make us sweat it out." But, he added, "we may make them sweat it out instead."**

On the scene trying to get the men to return to work was National Vice President Robert Morgan, sent here by President George Harrison, who said the stoppage was unauthorized. So effective was the walkout that company officials were forced to slap an embargo on all shipments in and out of the city, tying up one-fourth of the agency's national business.

## POSTWAR INDUSTRIES BOOM IN NEW JERSEY

TRENTON, N. J.—Harry C. Harper, State Labor Commissioner, announced that between March and April of this year, the manufacturing industry of New Jersey registered its largest monthly increase since V-J day. Most of the 85,600 new employees added to the payrolls increased employment more than 13 per cent, making a total of 737,600 employed in April.

Mr. Harper's joint report of the U. S. and State Labor Departments pointed out that the 737,600 was still 122,200 below the figure for April, 1945, and 228,300 or 23.6 per cent below the figure for April, 1945, and 228,300 or 23.6 per cent below the wartime peak of 956,900 in September, 1943. The greatest increase came in the durable goods industries.

## MAJORITY SEE HOPE FOR UN ORGANIZATION

DENVER.—Despite the many difficulties the United Nations security council has had to face during the past months, seven out of 10 adult Americans think the UN has done at least a fair job up to now, according to a recent nationwide survey by the National Opinion Research Center.

Asked to appraise the performance of the UN to date, 25 per cent of the public called it good, 45 per cent said fair and only 18 per cent answered poor. The remaining 12 per cent were undecided on the point.

## SCHWELLENBACH NAMES CUSHMAN SPECIAL AIDE

WASHINGTON.—Appointment of Edward L. Cushman, former Michigan director of the U. S. Employment Service, as a special assistant to Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach was announced by the Labor Department.

Currently assigned as an aide to John G. Winant, U. S. member of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, he will, upon completion of that assignment, study problems of Government reorganization as they affect the Labor Department and will serve as liaison officer for the Secretary with other Government agencies.

## McClintock's Mutterings

By A. B. McCLINTOCK

The lid is off and the sky is the limit! As was predicted in this column some months ago, "Big Business" has finally got Chester Bowles, and the OPA. What the final result will be, only time will tell. Of this much you may be sure. There will be scattered instances of higher prices, as witness the landlords already boosting rents to unheard of figures. But real big business is too smart for that sort of stuff, right off the bat, anyway. They will endeavor to keep prices at the same level for a while in order to prove that they were right and the OPA was a horrible mistake.

★ ★ ★

Stupid men do not make millions of dollars, or form billion dollar corporations. They know it would be playing right into the hands of the proponents of controlled prices to immediately boost commodities out of the reach of prospective purchasers. For instance, the chairman of the N. A. M. (National Association of Manufacturers) has sent out a letter to all members, warning them to watch their step for the time being. This, of course, will not fool too many of us, but it looks good in the papers. This is only until the heat is off, as they say in the underworld.

The increases will come after Congress has adjourned and the telegrams have stopped coming to our legislative representatives.

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The American Federation of Labor's policy in regard to strikes is well known to all. A strike is called only as a last resort. They do not want their men out on strike, realizing that every week a man loses at gainful work hurts them much more than it does the corporation against whom the strike is called. That is why the street car strike in San Francisco called by the Carmen's Union, and backed by the CIO Carmen's Union, is so important to all labor unions. It is an important milestone in the progress of Civil Service employee's unions. It is being watched by all Civil Service groups throughout the Nation. The future status of Civil Service Associations throughout the country will depend upon the outcome of this controversy.

★ ★ ★

All agree that the demands of the men are just. The Mayor has stated that if he, as an individual, was the employer, the demands of the striking carmen would be met immediately. The Supervisors admit that they should get the raise in wages they demand. Yet, many means are being used to break the strike. By pitting the AFL against the CIO. By attempting to get one group to report to work by promising them immunity for their "sins" if they will only break ranks. To quote: "We will not bring charges of insubordination against the men if they report for work now." In other words, if either the AFL or the CIO will only do a little strike-breaking (scabbing is the word, if you want it straight) all will be forgiven. Another slick trick is to try to scare the "limited tenure" employees into reporting for work by threatening them by saying that if they don't report within five days they are through. So far, all attempts to create disunity between the so-called rival groups have failed miserably. They evidently feel, as Ben Franklin stated so many years ago," we must hang together, or we will all hang separately."

★ ★ ★

Have just returned from a convention of the California State Association of the National Association of Letter Carriers. Was very pleased that the Association went on record as believing that the paramount objective of Postal employees should be to secure an increase in the annuities of our "forgotten men," the retired employees, who are still struggling to make both ends meet on the same amount they received as far back as 1925. They really deserve a better fate. Am also very proud of the part our Oakland delegation played in the election of our good friend William S. (Bill) Landerfin of Richmond, as President of the California State Association, and Al Walton, Berkeley's "little giant" as Secretary. Bill only won by three votes, but it was as good as a million.

## Can Giants Indicted For Anti-Trust Violations

WASHINGTON.—Some of the millions of dollars annually that **consumers have been paying** for canned goods may be saved in the future if the anti-trust suit of the Justice Department throws a big enough scare into the American Can and Continental Can companies.

**Attorney General Tom Clark announced June 26 the federal grand jury indictment of the two canning giants, largest in the world, on Sherman anti-trust act charges. The indictment claims the firms fixed prices as high as OPA ceilings would allow, coerced smaller producers to sell at the same figure, and divided up territory and specialty priorities.**

American and Continental Can between them sold $285,000,000 of America's $400,000,000 in can purchases in 1944. Cost of cans runs in some instances as high as 40 per cent of the cost of canned goods to the consumer.

## BIGGEST WHOPPER EVER TOLD?

**WASHINGTON.—During the Senate debate on continuing OPA June 27, elderly Senator Clyde M. Reed (R., Kansas), boasted that over 60 per cent of his mail favored killing price control.**

**Pleased, he went on to add "and over half of that comes from housewives who are fed up with OPA."**

**The crowded press gallery just smiled. Nobody thought it would be polite to ask Reed to see the "housewives' letters."**

## CHICAGO BRICK STRIKE WON

CHICAGO.—Nine local plants, producing an estimated 300,000 bricks a day, were scheduled to resume full production if eight locals of United Brick & Clay Workers (AFL) accept the terms proposed for settlement of their 45-day strike.

The settlement included a 6 cents hourly raise for 75 per cent of the 800 brickmakers and a 9 cents raise for the others. Improvements in vacation provisions were also embodies in the settlement, which was believed hastened by the announcement of subsidies to be paid by the federal government to brick producers.

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Everyone who can buy U. S. savings bonds will thereby help himself and his country.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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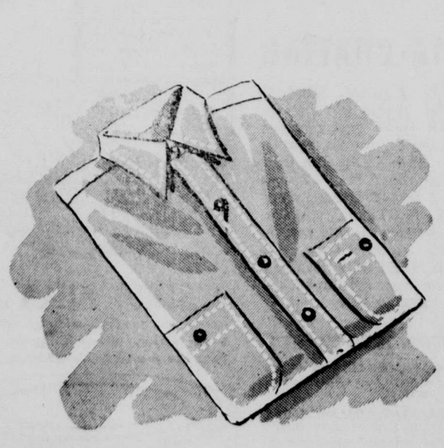
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On the East Shore of Clear Lake
HIGHWAY 20

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ALAMEDA County Fair
At PLEASANTON
July 2 to July 13
Eight Running Races and Two or More Harness RACES DAILY
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Kahn's BASEMENT
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We are diligently concentrating..... on providing service to waiting applicants as fast as it is humanly possible to do so

Every effort is being made to improve the quality and efficiency of our service

Directing our efforts as we have to render service as rapidly as possible to all who want it and to make our service even better than it has ever been before, the 2,886,000 telephones in service as of May 31, 1946, include an increase of 254,000 since V-J Day, of which 183,000 were added in the first five months of this year—an unequaled increase in any similar time period in the history of our company.

The telephone increase since V-J Day exceeds by 67,000, or 36 per cent, the 187,000 increase in the year 1943—the largest yearly telephone increase ever recorded by our company. The telephone increase for the first five months of 1946 exceeds by 69,000, or 60 per cent, the 114,000 increase for the entire year 1945.

New applications for service—totaling 340,000 for the first five months of this year—increased 107 per cent over the corresponding period of a year ago. Of the 286,000 prospective subscribers at the first of the year whose applications had been necessarily deferred due to shortage of facilities, we are glad to report that 183,000, or 64 per cent, have been cared for. Due, however, to the time necessarily involved in the installation of complicated switchboards—in many instances new buildings are required to house them—together with the large number of new applications and the continued materials shortages and disturbed conditions throughout the country affecting manufacturers' production, 229,000 applicants are still waiting for service.

We are diligently concentrating, notwithstanding the difficulties in obtaining adequate apparatus and materials, on providing service to waiting applicants as fast as it is humanly possible to do so. Likewise every effort is being made to improve the quality and efficiency of our service.

Construction of additional toll and long distance circuits has gone forward with rapidity and continued improvement is being made in the service even though the volume continues at record high levels—the calls being 20 per cent greater than in the corresponding five-month period of a year ago.

Our company has recently made substantial further postwar increased wage adjustments, aggregating $6,000,000 on an annual basis, as a result of collective bargaining negotiations with the unions. These added wage increases are over and above the postwar adjustment wage increases made in December of last year which aggregated more than $18,000,000 on an annual basis. Thus, this recent wage increase, embodied in a contract to run until March 1, 1947, brings the postwar adjustment wage increases, arising out of collective bargaining, to more than $24,000,000 annually—the increase in our postwar wage rates being 19 per cent. The recent collective bargaining negotiations between our management and the unions extended over a period from April 24 to May 18, 1946, and at no time throughout the negotiations did the unions or the company fail to realize that the public interest came first . . . Net Income has been adversely affected by increased costs of operation, particularly the large added wage expenditures.

R. R. Bowley
President

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

# EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

Owned, Controlled and Published Every Friday by Central Labor and Building and Construction Trades Councils of Alameda County
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JOURNAL PRESS


# Why Labor Fights Vicious Bill

Organized Labor is up in arms—and with good reason! The Hobbs Bill, another anti-Union monstrosity, was quietly slipped through the United States Senate last Friday while few members were present and without a record vote. Thus, with furious determination, a Congress heavily prejudiced against Labor Unions continues to pass one-sided, unworkable and destructive bills.

President Truman should do with the Hobbs Bill exactly what he did with the Case Bill—veto it! As this edition goes to press, the President has not acted on it.

Two constructive steps were repeatedly urged upon this session of Congress by Labor and by forward-looking men of industry who understand something of the present problems of the working people: expansion of the federal machinery for the conciliation and mediation of industrial disputes, and a thorough, painstaking, honestly conducted investigation of the causes of strikes and lockouts. Both have been rejected recklessly by this Congress.

With smug hypocrisy the sponsors and publicists of the Hobbs Bill protest that it is intended to stop racketeering, yet nothing could be farther from the truth. Its purpose is the same as the purpose of all anti-Union bills: to hold wages down or to reduce them, to destroy Union hours and conditions of employment, to smash the economic influence of organized workers. It's special purpose at this time is to stop, or delay the spread of Union organization, good wages and decent American living conditions, among the working people of the southern states.

Additional laws on "racketeering" are unnecessary. All of the states, and the federal government, now have sufficient law to eradicate that evil. Present laws, however, contain reasonable and rightful protection for Organized Labor in the practice of its ordinary, lawful and necessary activities in behalf of its members. The authors of the Case Bill struck out this protection. It is also missing from the Hobbs Bill.

The Hobbs Bill declares it shall be a federal crime for a Labor Union to "obstruct or delay" interstate commerce "in any way or degree"; it defines "robbery and extortion" as any act which is claimed to create "fear of injury." It makes it unlawful to ask and receive a wage increase through Union action, or even to discuss in a Union meeting action which might obstruct interstate commerce.

Let's take a possible case. For instance, a Labor Union might picket a firm which a federal judge decided was engaged in interstate commerce. That might be any concern in the country. If such peaceful, lawful picketing should cause delay "in any degree" with interstate commerce and if management should claim "fear of injury," both the Union, its officers and the pickets would be exposed to imprisonment in a federal penitentiary and to heavy fines. This is not an exaggeration: it is a simple statement of fact.

Look at the other side of the picture: nothing in the Hobbs Bill provides for the slightest penalty to be imposed upon an employer who may delay and obstruct interstate commerce by locking out his Union workers for any cause whatever.

It is plain that the Hobbs Bill is not intended for the protection of farmers who may drive their trucks to city markets. It is a bill skilfully, carefully, deliberately drawn to destroy the hard-won rights of organized American working people, for the benefit of the selfish few who hate Unions.

Yes, Organized Labor, and its members, millions strong throughout the country, are up in arms.—Washington Teamster.

# We Don't Patronize

The following persons and firms, after a thorough examination into the causes at issue, have been deemed unworthy of the patronage of members of organized labor and their friends:

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Stier's Beauty Salon,
1934 Broadway
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Barber Shop, 5487 Foothill Blvd.
Barber Shop, 474 8th St.
Passadori Shop, 3337 Lakeshore
Barber Shop, 5482 College Ave.
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**CLEANING AND DYEING**

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White Front Cleaners,
2601 San Pablo Ave.
French Art Cleaners, formerly known as Drake Cleaners,
1167 65th St.

**DRUG STORES**

Stier Drug Co.,
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All locksmiths in the East Bay area not displaying the union shop card.

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Life
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West Coast Printing Co.,
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Saturday Evening Post
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**RESTAURANTS**

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1971 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
2211 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley
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Vine Pastry Shop
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Florsheim Shoe Co.,
1444 Broadway
Burt's, 1209 Washington St.
Berland's, 1535 Broadway
Feltman & Curme, 1124 Washington St. and 1932 Telegraph Ave.
Leed's Shoe Store,
1315 Washington St.
Nisley Shoe Store,
1425 Broadway
F. W. Woolworth Company, Hayward

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Claremont Window Cleaning Co.,
2101 Woosley St., Berkeley
West Oakland Sheet Metal Supply Company, 1231 Center St., Oakland
Hotel Menlo, 13th & Webster Sts., Oakland
Precision Engineering Company,
5701 Green St., Emeryville
Sealy Mattress Co.,
6699 San Pablo Ave.
Bannum Truck Company
Gantner & Mattern Co.,
3rd and Berry St.,
San Francisco
West Coast Macaroni Manufacturing So., 1250 57th Avenue, Oakland
Blackstone Mfg. Co., N. Y., Tools and Implements
National Mattress Co.,
920 54th Ave.
National Nut Company,
362 Fourth St.
Goldstone Bros., Overalls
O'Keefe & Merritt Stove Co., Los Angeles
Sunset View Cemetery
C. K. Williams, Emeryville
Portland Hotel, 476 9th St., Oakland
Bear Creek Vineyard Association, Lodi
Bottled Brands of Wine:
"Bear Creek," "Bruin" and "Palencia"; bottled brandies: "Ceremony" and "Bruin"

# Report Shows Workers Worse Off Than Before the War

NEW YORK.—Despite all the propaganda of the corporations on the wartime increase of workers' earnings, official government figures compiled by Labor Research Association show that the American worker is actually worse off now than he was before the war.

**The relative position of the American worker in relation to what he produces and to the cost of living steadily declined during the war, with the greatest deterioration in the first year of peacetime production, LRA proves in its July Economic Notes. The worker actually received less in 1945 compared to what he produced than he received in 1939.**

Economists working for the National Association of Manufacturers or National Industrial Conference Board try to show that the position of the worker during the war greatly improved by statistics on increases in hourly or fulltime earnings. The employers don't bother with the overall picture of what the worker gets in terms of what it will buy or in terms of what he produced for the profit of the employer to earn his wages. Here is a table, made from official government statistics, giving the overall picture:

This table shows that the relative position of the employees of U. S. manufacturing industries declined 5 per cent from 1939 through 1944. In the year of transition to peacetime production, 1945, there was a further drop of about 5 per cent—a more rapid deterioration than at any time during the war.

During the war 1939-44 average annual earnings increased 84 per cent but, since the cost of living increased 44 per cent, real wages, or what the worker could buy with his paycheck, increased only 28 per cent. This increase was not as great as the increase in output per worker which, including both increase in productivity and in hours worked, averaged 35 per cent. The net result was that the worker received 5 per cent less in terms of what he produced than he received in 1939.

In 1945, with the cost of living continuing to rise, both average and real earnings fell 10 points (loss of overtime, etc.) and the relation between production and pay showed the sharp fall which was the economic basis for labor's wage campaign in the past year.

Relative position of Manufacturing workers, 1939-44 (1939 equals 100):

| | 1 Average Annual Earnings | 2 Cost of Living | 3 Average Real Annual Earnings | 4 Output Per Worker | 5 Relative Position of Worker |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1939 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1940 | 105 | 101 | 104 | 106 | 98 |
| 1941 | 121 | 107 | 113 | 117 | 96 |
| 1942 | 148 | 122 | 121 | 127 | 95 |
| 1943 | 172 | 137 | 126 | 135 | 93 |
| 1944 | 184 | 144 | 128 | 135 | 95 |
| 1945* | 174 | 147 | 118 | 132 | 89 |

(Column 3, real earnings, is derived from columns 1 and 2—average annual earnings and the cost of living. Column 5, workers' relative position, is column 4, output per worker, divided by column 3, his average real earnings. **The 1945* figures are preliminary estimates based on Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates.)**

## AFL PETITIONS FOR ELECTION AT OAK RIDGE

WASHINGTON.—The National Labor Relations Board announced June 27 it was investigating three petitions for plant-wide representation of 20,000 workers at the Oak Ridge, Tenn., atomic energy plants, filed with NLRB Special Agent Daniel Leary by the AFL Atomic Trades and Labor Council.

The AFL petitions were filed June 25 following withdrawal of six craft union petitions by AFL affiliates seeking to organize in the Carbide & Carbon Chemical Corporation and Tennessee Eastman Corporation, Oak Ridge, and in the Monsanto Chemical Company, Knoxville.

NLRB also announced it was investigating charges by two AFL affiliates against the atomic energy firms for unfair labor practices.

## COLUMBIA PRINTERS SEEK BOOST OF ALMOST 100% OVER CONTRACT

WASHINGTON.—A wage increase of approximately 100 per cent has been demanded by Columbia Typographical Union 101 (AFL), according to President Jesse Manbeck. The local is an affiliate of the ITU.

Manbeck said that the 600 members of the union are employed in some 52 print shops here and that he expected negotiations to be completed before the present contract expires August 11.

The union is demanding $3 an hour for day work, $3.30 for the night shift and $3.85 for the "lobster" or third shift. The present contract signed two years ago, calls for $1.53 an hour for day work, $1.66 for night, and $1.75 for the third shift.


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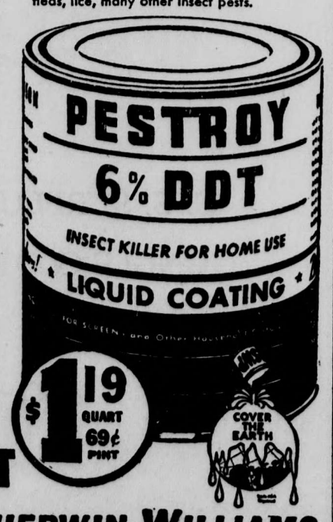



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## Strokes From the Brush of Local 127

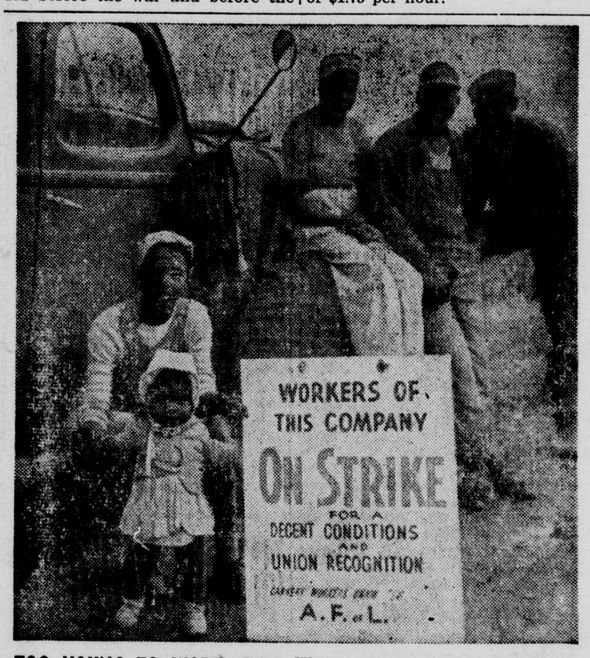
By HUGHIE RUTLEDGE

The following brothers on the sick list at the present time: Hugh Breese, Earl Meinke, Jay Forrest, E. P. Stuart, E. H. Fullmer, James Connell, Charles Triplett, Conrad Larson, A. F. Dunlap, Ralph Wood, L. D. Sibley, Jack Pike, T. J. Jones, Lon Gatts, R. C. Powell, E. M. Jorgensen, Austin Tibbitts, Carl Arvidson, John Kochis and M. Unterburg.

On another page of this issue is the result of our election held last Thursday night, June 27. This writer wishes to express his congratulations to all those who were elected to office and wish them all success in the coming year. As to myself may I thank all the members for having returned me to office for the eleventh year and assure all I shall continue to work for the interests of all the brothers in the future as I have in the past.

A great upset this week was the expiration of the OPA. There are a great many arguments in favor of the abolition and a great many against abolishing it. Congress has been flooded with letters requesting an extension. The president received thousands of letters congratulating him on his veto action. For me to express my opinion would only bring up more arguments, but to offset a lot of unjust advice let's look at the situation with an open mind. Whether we liked OPA or not we should not try to change the American way of living. We have been advised by columnists to not purchase anything. We have been advised by others to buy all we can get. As a suggestion why don't we all just go along in the manner we did before the war and before the OPA which is as follows: Buy what we really need regardless of what we have to pay for it. We do that now anyway and always did before.

Do not buy a lot of stuff we do not need just because we can get it. Remember last week a doctor's wife requested the police to recover 14 pairs of nylons that a burglar stole. How silly for anyone to have that many pairs in stock. Such purchases in the open market, which she evidently bought in the black market would certainly send the price sky high. Nylons were selling for $7.50 a pair black market and plenty people were buying them. Today I am told you can buy them over the counter for $1.75 a pair. And so on down the line. OPA price controlled articles were not available in the regular channels and had to be purchased black market. Today if you buy an article you are at least not violating some law. Butter is on the counter for 70 cents a pound. Last week it cost me $1 in the black market. As far as wages are concerned the Wage Adjustment Board is also out the window we are informed by the representative of the Building Trades Council who is in Washington at present. We have requested the Bay Area committee to hold a special meeting to consider raising the wages to $2 per hour and we will have the results in this column next week. At the present time there is no wage ceiling and the employer can pay whatever wages he wants without violating any law. Remember it is no violation of the union rules to accept more than the scale of $1.75 per hour.




**TOO YOUNG TO WORK, BUT:** Eleven-month-old Betty Jean Gary helps her mother on the picketline at the Starkey Farms near Morrisville, Pa., where 250 farm workers members of Local 56, Meat & Cannery Workers (AFL), met with terror and violence in their fight for union recognition and decent living conditions. (Federated Pix.)


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## STRIKEBREAKING CHARGES UPHELD AGAINST PACIFIC PRESS OF L. A.

While Allied Printing Trades Union continue to gain strength in their all-out strike efforts against the "open shop" Pacific Press, Deputy State Labor Commissioner, John F. McCarthy, ruled this week that the personnel manager of the printing concern, R. H. Bovard, had violated Section 973 of the Labor Code by illegally advertising for strikebreakers without mentioning the existence of a labor dispute.

**According to Robert W. Gilbert, attorney for the various printing unions, the findings of the deputy commissioner have been referred to the legal department of the State agency, which will decide whether criminal prosecution should be instituted.**

Tangible proof that the AFL boycott against all owners of Pacific Press, including Time, Inc., has taken effect is evidenced by a letter sent from the publishers of Time and Life to Southern California news dealers asking those who cancelled their orders, in response to the unions' appeal, to reinstate them, and admitting that refusal of News Company drivers to handle Time and Life had made it necessary to deliver these magazines by mail.

**Joining hands with the infamous Los Angeles Merchants and Manufacturers Association by drawing comfort in his arguments from the Hot Cargo Act, Mark Slater, Time and Life representative, frankly confessed in his letter to news dealers that "this law is designed to prohibit secondary boycotting or picketing on the part of any union." Slater also conceded "that deliveries have not been as regular as they should have been during the past few weeks" and stated, "This strike began one month ago and we hope it will soon be over."**

Further progress was reported by Pacific Press Strike Chairman Walter Turner, who announced that rank and file members of the Amalgamated Lithographers of America, CIO, have been informed for the first time through handbills at their place of work that members of their organization are being employed as "scabs" at Pacific Press. Turner expressed the hope that these individual members of the Amalgamated would take steps to force their International to stop acting as a strikebreaking agency and to cease helping the M & M-supported firm in its fight against the Allied Printing Trades Council.

## INTERGROUP EDUCATION WORKSHOP TO BE CONDUCTED AT MILLS

Mills College, Oakland, will conduct a six-week workshop in intergroup education beginning July 6, according to J. Munroe Warner, East Bay Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Purpose of the workshop is to bring together educators from primarily the Pacific Coast States, with some attendance from other parts of the nation, to develop craftsmanship in teaching human relations and in organizing democratic group life in the school and community.


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